

# HOWNICKAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE



Vol. 19, No. 1

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

January 1997



## OTB Is On Its Way!

Citizen Potawatomi Nation gaming director George Teafatiller, left, and Gaming Commissioner Don Yott, right, look over the area where the betting windows for the tribe's new Off-Track Betting facility will be located. Renovation of existing space between the bingo hall and bowling center is in its final stages since tribal officials were notified Jan. 24 that the U.S. Dept. of the Interior has approved the OTB compact, previously approved by the Oklahoma state government. FireLake Lounge will be equipped with television sets for viewing the horse races gamblers are wagering on, and several games, such as progressive pull tabs, will be relocated to an adjacent room sporting a glitzy Vegas-style decor.

## Tribal archaeologist digging into past

By Gloria Trotter

The rich history of the Potawatomi people is often just beneath the surface of their daily lives, and one of the tribe's newest employees is on a mission to preserve and protect it.

Lisa Kraft's official job title is Historic Preservation Officer

and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Representative, but around tribal headquarters, she's usually known as the tribal archaeologist. She became an employee of the tribe's Language & Culture Department, headed by Norman Kiker, last November, after

serving several months in a consulting capacity.

Kraft's duties are as varied as the history of her people, the Potawatomi. "I'm developing a cultural resource management program for future land use," she explained, "which will provide a manual of where

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## Tribes join forces in Absentee-Shawnee jurisdiction battle

Violation of tribal jurisdiction by the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe has escalated to the point that Potawatomi officials have joined with other tribes in trying to stop them.

The focus of the joint efforts at this point has been housing, according to Chairman John A. Barrett, but the jurisdictional clash is also affecting law enforcement, the Johnson-O'Malley program and other areas.

"We are seeking solutions to the Absentee-Shawnee violation of the Oklahoma Housing Authority Act," Barrett said. "The Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Sac & Fox Nation and the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma have submitted demands to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that housing units in their respective tribal jurisdictions under the control of the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority (ASHA) be relinquished."

Barrett said the action could involve "several hundred housing units and funds in excess of a million dollars."

Since the July 1996 ruling by the U.S. District Court that the Shawnees do not share a common reservation with the Potawatomi any longer, the status of housing projects by the ASHA in the Tecumseh area especially is in question. "I believe the City of Tecumseh would not have issued building permits to the ASHA if they were aware of the violations," Barrett said. "They don't have jurisdiction."

Potawatomi officials are working closely with Sac & Fox and Kickapoo leaders on the problem. Elmer Manatowa, chairman of the Sac & Fox Housing Authority, wrote HUD officials in Washington in December asking them to "immediately stop the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority from doing any housing business within the Sac & Fox Nation jurisdiction. We are aware that the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority is in the process of buying vacant building lots and doing single family dwelling acquisition."

Manatowa has been fighting Absentee Shawnee jurisdiction violations for several years. In 1994, when he was Principal Chief of the tribe, he asked the Bureau of Indian Affairs office in Anadarko to stop the Absentee Shawnees from taking over the Johnson-O'Malley program in Sac & Fox jurisdiction. Gov. Larry Nuckolls had notified the BIA that his tribe planned to "extend social service, general

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# TRIBAL TRACTS



## SMALL BUSINESS TALK

*With Linda Capps  
Tribal Vice Chairman*

There is confusion surrounding women-owned small business opportunities in contracting with many local, state, and federal entities.

There may be set asides for women-owned businesses in a few states, but set asides for women within the federal purchasing arena is a common misconception and is often confused with the designation "minority" which is used synonymously with the term "small disadvantaged business." There are set asides for small disadvantaged business, U.S. Small Business Administration 8(A) firms, and small business as an entire grouping, but there are no federal government set asides for women-owned business.

Women, as a group, do not have the set aside status of minorities because they are not minorities, nor do they have, as a group, the preferential status of a minority. If the woman is a minority, she may elect to fall under the small

disadvantaged business status or an 8(A) business status, but she will not obtain set aside or preferential status as a woman owned business.

A variety of assistance for women-owned business enterprises is available from numerous local, state, and federal agencies. A good example is the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. A program for women-owned business enterprises along with small disadvantaged businesses is being offered to assist in acquiring short-term working capital for DOT related contracts. Loans are available under the DOT Short-term Lending Program (STLP) at prime interest rates to provide accounts receivable financing. For further information and applicable forms concerning the STLP, call 1-800-532-1169.

Some states offer set aside programs and other preference practices for women-owned business. Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, and New Jersey are included in the participating states. Oklahoma has a certification program for women-owned business. The purpose of the program is to certify women-owned business enterprises (WBEs) in order to facilitate contracting capabilities with public and private sector entities.

In 1988, President Reagan signed into law HB 5050, the Women's Business Ownership Act. With the passage of this legislation came mandatory statutory requirements for compiling and maintaining accurate statistical information on women-owned businesses. Although the WBE certification is not a mandatory requirement, the designation may facilitate access to contracting opportunities. If you are interested in obtaining more information on the WBE certification in Oklahoma, write the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Women-Owned Business Certification Program, P.O. Box 26980, Oklahoma City, OK 73126-0980 or call 1-800-879-6552 or 405-815-5272.

For information regarding women-owned business in your state, contact your State Department of Commerce.



## Helping Hand

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation joined its neighbors in Pottawatomie County in helping out the less fortunate over the Christmas holidays. The tribe made a \$5,000 donation to Operation Christmas, the volunteer program which provides food, toys, clothing and household items to children, elders and families at Christmas. On hand for the presentation were, from left, Committeeman Hilton Melot, Secretary-Treasurer Gene Bruno, Operation Christmas co-chairman Nance Diamond, Chairman John Barrett, and Vice Chairman Linda Capps.

## HOW-NI-KAN PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

The HowNiKan is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions to non-members are available for \$10 annually in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries.

The HowNiKan is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the HowNiKan and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

All letters and submissions become the property of the HowNiKan. Editorials and letters are subject to editing and must contain a traceable address. Final selection of material for publication is subject to approval by the Business Committee.

All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee  
Chairman - John A. "Rocky" Barrett Jr.  
Vice Chairman - Linda Capps  
Sec./Treasurer - Gene Bruno  
Committeeman - Hilton Melot  
Committeeman - Jerry P. Motley

Toll-Free Number: 1-800-880-9880  
<http://www.potawatomi.org>

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will evaluate any offer from its members who wish to bring a business opportunity to the Tribe which can benefit from Minority Status under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Administration. The conditions under which the business would operate must be:

1. The business must be owned 100% by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.
2. All activities including staffing, marketing, equipment, work space will be provided by the member with the proposal.
3. Adequate working capital must be provided by the member with the proposal.
4. All proceeds of sales will go into a "lock box" distribution account at First National Bank, Shawnee, Oklahoma, with payments made from this account to pay (1) all suppliers and accounts payable, (2) a Citizen Potawatomi Nation percentage of the gross margin, and then (3) the balance is paid to the tribal member.
5. The business must be of a type that is complimentary to the public image of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Please submit all offers which conform to the above standards to John "Rocky" Barrett, Citizen Potawatomi Nation. This offer is made to Citizen Potawatomi Nation members only.



Justin Martin Rush, member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, has completed boot camp" at Great Lakes Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, IL. He will be attending AECF "Advanced Electronics and Computer Field." He is the son of Randall Rush of Guthrie, Oklahoma, and a descendent of Carrie Mae Darling Striegel, a Citizen Potawatomi allottee. She attended Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas, when it was first founded.

# THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Provided by Steve Kime, tribal member,  
author and professional speaker from  
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The other day while entering the doorway of a busy office building, I paused for a moment and held the door open so two women could enter the building. As one of the ladies passed by me she said, "your parents sure raised you right!" Her comment surprised me. My action was nothing unusual. I was just using manners that my parents taught me and thought it was the normal, courteous thing to do!

Reflecting on that incident, I am thankful for the numerous individuals who took the time to teach me and guide me. Many things that I do today are the direct result of the influence from my parents, teachers and neighbors.

Let me encourage you to say "Thank You" to individuals who have made the difference in your life. They will appreciate the word of thanks, and they too will know that they "raised you right."

And remember — to have a friend is to be one!

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CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

**Daytime Phone:****Merchandise  
Total**

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**If Merchandise**

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20.00 - 34.99 .....	5.00
35.00 - 49.99 .....	6.00
50.00 - ? .....	7.00



# TRIBAL TRACTS

## Walking on

### JAMES EDWARD TALTY JR.

James Edward Talty Jr., 82, Topeka, died Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at a Topeka hospital.

Mr. Talty worked at the Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Affairs Hospital for many years before he retired in 1972. He served in the Army during World War II. He was born August 15, 1914, in Topeka, the son of James Edward and Gertrude Schwartz Talty Sr. He was a lifelong resident of Topeka.

Mr. Talty was a member of the Church of the Assumption, Philip Billard Post No. 1650 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. He was married to Opal Griffin on May 27, 1941, in Kansas City, MO. She died May 10, 1992. Survivors include two sisters, Irene Peters, Topeka, and Mary Lartz, Boca Raton, FL.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 21 at the Church of the Assumption. Burial with military graveside services conducted by Post No. 1650 of the VFW was at Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Church of the Assumption, 204 S.W. 8th, Topeka, 66603.

### ROBERT W. BARRETT

Lifelong Pottawatomie County resident Robert W. (Bob) Barrett, Tecumseh, died Dec. 11, 1996, at the age of 87. Barrett was born Dec. 14, 1908, in Asher to James Thomas and Minnie (Haas) Barrett. He married Isabelle Lieuticia Robnett on June 26, 1943, in Oklahoma City. He worked during his early years in construction with McDonnell Douglas, then as a general carpenter and painter. He later worked with the State of Oklahoma Highway Department in bridge construction until his retirement in 1971.

Survivors include his wife, Isabelle L. Barrett of the home; his sons and daughters-in-law, Robert Wayne and Sue Barrett, David and Connie Barrett, all of Shawnee, and Wallace and

Mary Barrett of Shippensburg, PA; a brother, George Barrett of Shawnee; a sister, Lila McGee of Midwest City; six grandchildren, Shelby Hodde, Michelle Barrett, Allison Barrett, Shana Barrett, Chad Barrett and Ashley Barrett and several other relatives. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and three sisters. Services were held Dec. 14 at Cooper Funeral Chapel, in Tecumseh with the Rev. Bill Matthews and Phil Thompson officiating. Burial was in Brown Cemetery.

### BIRDIE SMITH ROHR

Birdie Smith Rohr died on January 3, 1997, at the age of 89.

Mrs. Rohr was born in Wanette, Oklahoma on January 8, 1907, to George B. Smith and Clara Compton Smith.

For the past few years, Ms. Rohr had made her home in Henryetta, Oklahoma, living with her daughter Ms. Jean Showalter.

Mrs. Rohr had three children, two preceding her in death. Survivors include one daughter, Jean Showalter, eight grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Rohr was the granddaughter of Citizen Potawatomi allottee Eliza Darling Smith and the great-granddaughter of Lucius Ripley Darling and Elizabeth Wilmot.

### KENNETH D. WHEATON

Mr. Wheaton was born at Farmington, N.M. on May 18, 1920, to Charles and Nellie Kennedy Wheaton. They moved to Shawnee, Oklahoma, when he was a young boy and he received his education there. He entered the U.S. Army in April of 1942 and served in the European Theater. He was discharged in August of 1945.

Mr. Wheaton married Eunice Autrey on Dec. 20, 1954, in Shawnee. He worked for Petty Geo Physical Co. for 9 years, serving South America, Canada, and Western South Dakota. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in

ASCS in Arizona and California for 27 years. His wife preceded him in death in April of 1981.

He retired in January of 1985 and moved to Flandreau. He was married to Ann Anderson on Jan. 28, 1985 at St. Charles, MO, and they have continued to make their home in Flandreau.

He was a member of the United Methodist Church, American Legion, VFW, and Citizen Band Potawatomi Nation.

He is survived by his wife, Ann, of Flandreau; 4 stepsons, David Autrey, Myrtle Beach, OR; John Kamben, Williston, ND; Bruce Kamben, Hartland, WI; Dale Harden, Parkville, MO; 2 step-daughters: Helen Benes, Tehachapi, CA; Maridee Toates, Flandreau; 1 sister, Verona Looper, Shawnee, OK; a brother-in-law, H.W. Reedy, Vista, CA; 15 step-grandchildren and 1 step-great-granddaughter.

### STEPHEN DWAYNE WOLFE

Stephen Dwayne Wolfe of McCloud died Friday, Jan. 10, 1997, in a Shawnee area hospital. He was 41.

Services were held Jan. 14 in the chapel of Resthaven Funeral Home with Max Packard officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park.

He was born March 6, 1955, in Guthrie to Doris and Elsie Mae (Clark) Wolfe. He attended Central High School in Kansas City, Kansas, and lived most of his life in McCloud. He married Glenda Snow on May 13, 1972, in Grandview, Missouri. He was a contractor and landlord and a member of the Pentecostal church.

Surviving are his wife, Glenda Wolfe, and three sons, Stephen James Wolfe, Jason Dewayne Wolfe, Bradley Scott Wolfe, all of the home; his father, Doris Wolfe, Shawnee; five brothers, Glen Wolfe, Kansas City; Billy Wolfe, Eufaula; two sisters, Judy Jones and Jeanette G. Groman, both of Shawnee; and many other relatives.



Amber & Junior Lowden

## Amber Barnett, Junior Lowden Married At Pow Wow Grounds

Nobbie Joe Lowden Jr. of Saint Louis, Oklahoma, and Amber Diane Barnett of Shawnee were married Saturday, Oct. 5, 1996, at the Potawatomi Pow Wow Grounds with Pastor Glenn Peck officiating. Tribal Chairman John A. Barrett performed the traditional Potawatomi blessing.

The bride is the daughter of Sherida Taylor of Shawnee and Roger Barnett of Weatherford. The groom is the son of Nobbie and Esther Lowden of Saint Louis.

The bride wore a sleeveless halter gown with a fitted bodice accented in pearls and sequins. Her veil of bridal illusion was attached to a halo of pearls and roses.

Laura Lyn Ryan served her sister as matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Jennifer Miner, Brandy Daley, Lisa Fennell and Autumn Bryan.

Nobbie Lowden served his son as best man. Groomsmen were Brian Lobaugh, Cord McClure, Jason Melot and Robert Lowden, and ushers were Mark Barnett, Rob Fletcher, Don Kerr and Rob Whitefield.

Ringbearer was Russell Cozad and flower girls were Ashley Taylor, Roxy Barnett and Nikki Coching.

A reception was held following the ceremony in the Long Room at Potawatomi tribal headquarters. The couple honeymooned in Missouri.

The bride is employed in the accounting department of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the groom is a teacher and coach for Bethel Public Schools.

## DONATIONS TO THE HOWNIKAN

Dr. and Mrs. W.B. Simecka, NV - \$15

Mr. and Mrs. Nevels B. Vandagriff, OK - \$25

MSGT Michael L. Moore and Joyce Moore, APO - \$10

Glenn E. Cherry, TX - \$10

David or Doris N. Schenandoah, FL - \$20

Judy Friend, Texas - \$15

E. Christine Pauley, Iowa - \$75



# TRIBAL TRACTS

## Potawatomi Housing Authority official, taking applications

The Potawatomi Nation Business Committee passed the required resolution creating the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority of Oklahoma earlier this year.

On November 21, 1996, Chairman Barrett received a letter from Wayne Sims, administrator of the Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs, in Oklahoma City. The letter stated "Congratulations! Our legal staff has completed its review of your tribal ordinance to establish the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority; We have approved the ordinance." The Authority is now eligible to apply for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD."

Under recent federal legislation, HUD will fund housing programs directly to tribes through a block grant. One requirement of receiving block grant funding is the designation of a housing entity to manage the funding. HUD has scheduled block grant funding for housing-related programs to begin Oct. 1, 1997. This made it very important to have a designated housing entity in place. Otherwise, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation would lose the first year of funding.

A Board of Commissioners composed of five members manages the affairs of the Authority. The current Board of Commissioner members appointed by the Business Committee are John A. Barrett Jr., Linda Capps, J.P. Motley, Shelley Schneider, and Mike Woods. The Board of Commissioners elected Mr. John A. Barrett, Jr. as chairman, Mr. Mike Woods as vice chairman, and hired Ron Qualls as Executive Director/Secretary.

Currently the Authority is developing policies, procedures, and seeking sources of funding. Federal funding will not be available until mid-year 1997. This gives the Authority time to develop the required and formalize policies. The Authority expects to offer home ownership opportunities through new housing construction, rehabilitation of existing homes, and a rental program for the elderly. Our Authority like most Housing Authorities cannot serve everyone. Therefore, our goal is to serve the neediest of the needy. An application for housing is found in the right-hand corner of this page.

Indian families or individuals needing housing assistance should contact Ron Qualls at (405) 878-4850. Write the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority at 1901 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801, or come by the Housing Authority Office at 41601 Hardesty Road, east

of FireLake Entertainment Center. We want to stress that immediate housing assistance is not available. We are however compiling a waiting list.

Future funding depends partly on a waiting list of eligible applicants.

Therefore, checking with us regarding eligibility is important. Families and individuals on the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority waiting list are encouraged to comply with all requests for information. They may serve your

housing needs before our funding is available. Being on the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority applicant list will not preclude Indian families from applying with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Housing Authority.

### CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION HOUSING AUTHORITY APPLICATION FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

#### HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

List the Head of Household and all other members who will be living in the unit. Give the relationship of each family member to the head.

Member's Full Name	Relationship	Birthday	Age	Sex	Social Security Number	Tribal Affiliation
	Head					

#### Income Information:

What is the total annual income of all household members? Include wages, salaries and tips, and other income such as alimony, child support, and Social Security, AFDC or other benefits; \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Members Name	Source of Income	Annual Income	Income Received Weekly, Monthly, Etc.

Type of Housing Assistance Needed Circle One:      New Housing      Repair of Existing Home      Rental

Head of Household Signature/Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Signature: \_\_\_\_\_





## IN YOUR OPINION...



Gregory Alan Upton

### Proud of grandson

Editor of HowNiKan:

This is a portrait of my grandson, Gregory Alan Upton. He received a Juris Doctorate Degree from the University College of Law, Norman, Oklahoma, in May 1996. He then passed the bar

examination. He is now an attorney with Birdwell Associates in Oklahoma City.

Gregory graduated from Strother High School in Seminole County; also Seminole Junior College before enrolling at Oklahoma University.

Information about his ancestors was published in the May issue, 1989, HowNiKan. Zozetta Bergeron (daughter of Chief Joseph), Katherine Bergeron Melot, Theresa Melot Upton, Emery Upton, Billy Upton, Larry Upton, and Gregory Upton.

My children are proud of their Indian heritage. Thank you.

A proud grandmother of a Potawatomi descendant,

Bobbie J. Upton  
Seminole, Oklahoma

### Talking on the web

To The Editor:

Potawatomi anyone?

I am old enough to remember when home telephones were a rarity. There were those who said they would never

tolerate a telephone in their house. Now the computer is the new home gadget, and it is as inevitable as the telephone.

Computers link together with the World Wide Web and Internet and our own Citizen Potawatomi Nation here in Shawnee is a vital part of that World Wide Web because members are scattered world wide. Members like me can keep in touch with Tribal Headquarters from our own home many miles away. If you have access to the Web, our Tribe is located on the Internet at (<http://www.potawatomi.org>).

Computers have made it possible for members to actually talk to each other over the miles without long-distance phone charges. I am looking for someone to talk Potawatomi with me. There are at least two free programs which allow conferencing over the net, so Potawatomi Web Surfers, please send me an E-mail and we can set up a language session.

My E-mail address is ([jackpot@cruzio.com](mailto:jackpot@cruzio.com)).

Jack Wooldridge  
112 Surfside Ave.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

### Spiritual input sought

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is a donation for the HowNiKan. I enjoy reading it as it helps me feel a part of my heritage.

I have been placed on a committee on Native American Awareness for the Iowa conference of the United Methodist Church and felt that perhaps some of the members would take time to write me a note suggesting ideas on how Native Americans (or at least our tribe) are represented in spiritual undertakings. I frankly know very little about our spiritual heritage and feel underqualified to represent this part of my heritage. I would welcome any feedback as I get so many mixed messages, but I note many are from the white culture that thinks they know what Native Americans feel. Also, there is a controversy concerning tradition and the Christian message in many tribes. I feel I would have more to add to the committee if I had more input. Any help would be appreciated.

Christine Pauley  
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Early, Iowa 50535

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# TRIBAL TRACTS

## Partnership with St. Gregory's will 'blaze trail to 21st century'

Bourzho Nikon (Hello My Friends),

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has a long and creative history with the Benedictines of St. Gregory's Abbey. Soon to be called St. Gregory's University, the original Sacred Heart Academy was the school, spiritual center and social hub of the Potawatomi reservation in Indian Territory.

The founding of Sacred Heart by Father Isodore Robot was a product of a request to the Pope by the soon-to-be-relocated Citizen Potawatomi in Kansas. Realizing the need for churches and schools in their new home in the wilderness, the original Potawatomi families knew that their progress as a nation would be dependent on the intellectual and spiritual growth of their children. In almost every milestone of our history as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, one can find key individuals whose families were a part of the Sacred Heart community. This fact of history has kept us close to St. Gregory's, no matter our religious affiliation, for generations.

With the old saying in mind that "history repeats itself," a new and exciting era is about to begin between the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and St. Gregory's University. With the coming of Dr. Frank Pfaff to the presidency of St. Gregory's, the legacy begun by our cherished friend, the late Father Michael



### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

BY JOHN A. BARRETT JR.

Rothler, is coming to fruition. Next week, we will begin planning a ten-year program to "blaze our trail into the 21st century."

This will be accomplished in several steps. The first will be a fiber optic cable computer link from tribal headquarters to St. Gregory's University. This link will allow the Citizen Potawatomi to begin its long-sought goal of developing a real-time video link-up with the regional council offices. In addition, this link will allow the Potawatomi tribe to access the academic, cultural and economic development opportunities available through our partnership with the university.

St. Gregory's will assist us in developing an interactive Potawatomi language learning program that will facilitate our language efforts one

hundred fold. St. Gregory's has also committed to help develop a museum docent and curator training program and help create rotating exhibits among the many museums holding Potawatomi artifacts and art. St. Gregory's intends to provide health care scholastic programs to train nurses and other health professionals for the tribe.

The most profound impact on our future will be St. Gregory's commitment to permanently fund a \$10,000 tribal scholarship for every \$100,000 of

cooperative funding from the tribe. These funds will primarily be federal and private foundation sourced but will include a portion of tribal scholarship funds presently committed to St. Gregory's. This will create a permanent source of higher education resources for our youth.

The Potawatomi Nation intends to commit \$1,000,000 in future economic resources to this joint effort. This initiative will not be done at the expense of other tribal programs. The partnership itself opens up a vista of new financial opportunities for both the Potawatomi Nation and St. Gregory's University as a source of this funding commitment.

The next issue of the HowNiKan will feature this exciting new opportunity.

Megwetch,

John Barrett

## Barrett joins St. Gregory's board as joint projects put in motion

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. will join the Board of Directors of St. Gregory's College in Shawnee as part of a renewed partnership between the tribe and the college whose histories are so entwined.

Barrett will begin a three-year term on the St. Gregory's board in April, just as the two-year college finalizes plans to become a four-year university and change its name to St. Gregory's University. St. Gregory's is the oldest institution of higher learning in Oklahoma and its only Catholic college. It traces its roots to Sacred Heart Mission, where Benedictine monks taught generations of Native Americans — mostly Potawatomi — until a devastating fire drove the school to Shawnee.

Barrett said he and St. Gregory's president Dr. Frank Pfaff have been working on a plan that will culminate in

endowed scholarships for Potawatomi students. The tribe will pledge a million dollars to the school through various programs and projects, and for each \$100,000 spent at St. Gregory's, the college will permanently endow a \$10,000 scholarship for a tribal member.

Among the joint projects being discussed are a fiber optic link; a Native American Affairs division at the school; an interactive, CD-ROM based Potawatomi language program with Internet access; an educational summit conference at St. Gregory's where Dr. Pfaff would present the new programs; assistance from the college's museum in training docents for the tribe's museum; rotating museum exhibits; a health care initiative that would include the school's Mabee Aerobic Center; and exploration of economic development opportunities abroad.

## POTAWATOMI PRIDE

## POTAWATOMI PROGRESS

In the past dozen years, the Potawatomi people have seen their tribe grow in every way. From the make-shift offices in a trailer to the beautiful, sprawling tribal complex that is the envy of all, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's services and enterprises have made it one of the most progressive tribes anywhere. I've been grateful for the opportunity to lead the tribe during that period, and I'd be grateful for the opportunity to lead the Citizen Potawatomi Nation into the next century. I ask for your vote June 28 in the election for Tribal Chairman.



**SUPPORT  
VOTE FOR  
RE-ELECT**

**Chairman John A. 'Rocky'  
BARRETT**

Paid for by John A. Barrett Jr.



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL COUNCIL

Southwest Museum • Los Angeles • January 18, 1997



THE YOUNGEST ENROLLED TRIBAL MEMBER present at the Regional Council was 21-month-old Misty Marie Salan, shown here with her mother, Lisa Castaneda of Monterey Park, California.



CHAIRMAN JOHN A. BARRETT is shown with Duane King, director of the Southwest Museum.



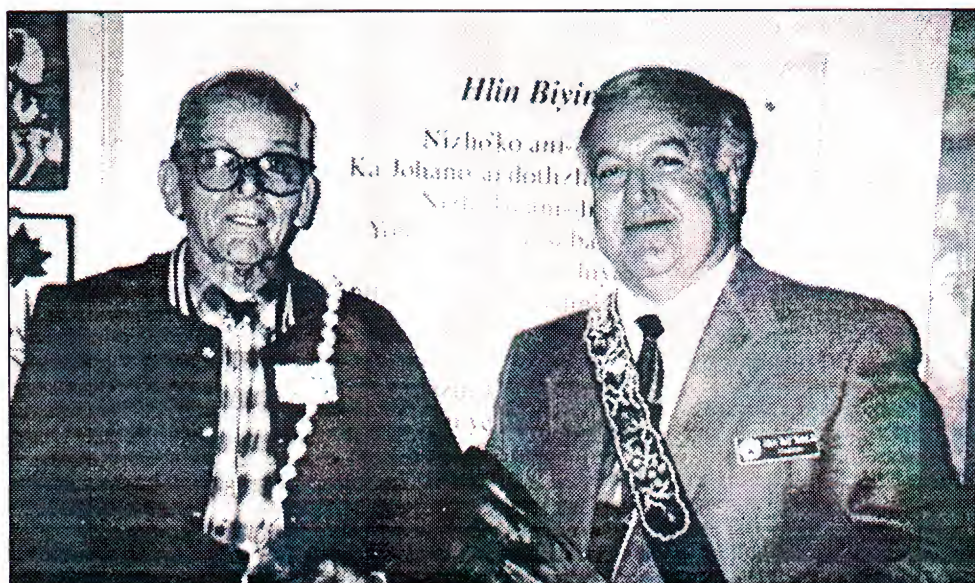
THIS IS ANNE PERRY and her son, Kevin Perry. They registered members and guests for the Regional Council.



NADINE WEISHAL of El Cajon, California, was honored for traveling farthest. She is shown with Chairman Barrett.



REGIONAL COORDINATOR JEREMY FINCH, left, and the Rev. Norman Kiker both spoke to the audience during the Regional Council.



CHAIRMAN ROCKY BARRETT congratulates Bob Whistler for being the "wisest" enrolled member there. Whistler is a young 86 years old.



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OTHER ELDERS IN ATTENDANCE were Loretta Peltier Jenkins and Wendell Higbee, shown here with Chairman Barrett and Norman Kiker.



IT'S A (PELTIER) FAMILY REUNION! Left to right: rocky Barrett, Loretta Peltier Jenkins, Norman Kiker, Jerry Correy and Shawnie Jensen.



THREE TIRED TROOPERS — Committeeman Hilton Melot, Esther Lowden and Secretary/Treasurer Gene Bruno — start packing to come back to Oklahoma.



ISN'T THIS A NICE PLACE, PART 1 — Tribal members line up for the buffet at the Southwest Museum.



ISN'T THIS A NICE PLACE, PART 2 — Members enjoy their meal outdoors under sunny Southern California skies.



ISN'T THIS A NICE PLACE, PART 3 — Another view of the crowd enjoying their meal at the Southwest Museum.





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### Maryann Welch-Frank

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# REGIONAL REPORTS

## OREGON IDAHO

### ROCKY BAPTISTE

Bourzho Nikon,

I hope this finds everyone well and keeping your feet dry. Need I say any more about the weather in Oregon? This has been the most unbelievable year ... I know we would all like to go outside and walk around without getting our feet wet, and my old bones just don't take the cold and wet like they used too.

I can remember, as a child, living in Pawhuska, Oklahoma, the weekends that my dad would go out for the whole weekend. On Friday night, after work, he would pack up a sack lunch. I don't remember now just how big a sack he took with him, but it didn't seem like it was too much. My mother would drive him out to Bird Creek, in our old Model A and drop him off. We wouldn't see him again until Sunday night when Mom would go pick him up at some designated place.

I never really knew just what he did those weekends, but I'm sure he did some fishing and I do remember Dad brought home a lot of Indian arrow heads. My father's mother died when he was eight years old and my grandfather sent him to school at Chilocco Indian School. He was there until he was fifteen. So, I suppose he felt a need for the time alone that he didn't get at school. I just recently finished a book about Chilocco School. Even though it was mainly after the time that my dad

was there, it was very interesting to my family. The name of the book is "Prairie Light." If you find it at your library, please read it and while you do, remember that the ones they talk about are our relatives. I know mine were there.

Of course, my mother was Potawatomi also. She and her sisters went to St. Mary's. For a short time, as after some mistreatment, my spunky Mother took her little sister, who at that time was only five or six and headed home by way of the railroad tracks. She told me that she knew that the railroad tracks went not too far from the house and she stayed on it until they got home. I think this must have been twenty to thirty miles to walk. She said when they got home they saw the superintendent's horse and buggy parked outside the house.

She and her sister went in the back door and hid underneath the kitchen table, the one with the long table cloth that hung

down to the floor, and they stayed there until he left. Their Mother said they did not have to go back.

It was very hard for the kids in those days as the government tried to take the "Indian" out of them, by cutting their hair, making them wear uniforms, march to and from meals, classes, chores and such. No one was allowed to speak their own language and was punished if they did. (I really miss the stories my folks told me.) My dad told how he had to really scrounge to have enough to eat. One fall day, here in Oregon, my dad took my children out to the garden, built a fire and showed them how to parch corn. He said it kept him alive the first few years he was at school. My children loved that parched corn and would beg Grandpa to make more.

We are setting up the details for our Regional meeting. The date has been set for April 20 and it looks like it will be at the same place as the last couple of years. Please write the dates on your calendar and plan on making it the biggest year yet. Remember to bring your genealogy to share and your questions for the committee members. We will have something special for the children that attend also.

Megwich,

Rocky Baptiste

The greatest power that a person possesses is the power to choose ...

## NORTH TEXAS

### MARJORIE HOBODY

The New Year is here. The Cowboys lost — in more ways than one. We're having winter weather which usually happens here in January and February and soon spring will be on its way. Jennifer Porter

mentioned how time goes faster as we get older; she should be my age. 1996 has flown by as it will soon be a year since I retired from my other job. The holidays were festive and peaceful and the New Year is off to a good start. We even got the garage cleaned out.

Appreciated the calls I received regarding a class on making shawls and doing ribbon work. I still plan to do this in February or March and the only way I can let you know the time and location is if you call me and give me your name, address, and phone number. We're all going to need shawls and ribbon shirts for the pow-wow and the gathering. Exciting times are ahead and they will also be here before we know it.

During the holidays, we were all aware of the need for help from those less fortunate. This need continues throughout the year, so look around and see where you may be able to help. The Inter-Tribal center has a food bank and Joe Dorries has mentioned to me some Native American churches in the area. I should have names and phone numbers if you want to give me a call. It's always good to hear from you with your requests for forms and information. So if I can help, give me a call.

Marj Hobdy

Bourzho from Kansas City,

Here we are in the New Year already. Strange weather we've been having here in the Midwest. We had record warm temperatures in January and snowstorms in October!

I want to say thank you to everyone who sent Christmas cards and season greetings. It's always nice to hear from you. It has been kind of quiet at the office, somewhat typical for this time of the year though.

It's not too soon to be making your plans for the Shawnee powwow. Get your motel and camping reservations in early. Also mark your calendars for Saturday, May 17, for the Midwest Regional. Encourage everyone to please be as accurate as possible when you make your reservations for the meeting.

An accurate head count is very important because we get charged per person for our meals. We don't want to pay for more food than we need, nor do we want to come up short. So please be as accurate as you can and please be sure to cancel if you can't make it. It will be very much appreciated by all tribal members! Invitations will be sent out about 2 or 3 weeks before the meeting, so don't look for them until about the first of May.

Also please note there is a change of address for this regional office. This change became effective about 6 months ago. The address is 12516 Askew Drive, Grandview, Missouri, 64030. Take care and keep in touch!

Megwetch,

Maryann Welch Frank

## MIDWEST

### MARYANN WELCH-FRANK



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## SOUTH TEXAS

LU ELLIS

Bo Sho from Southeast Texas,

After some strange "summer in the winter," it looks as if we are headed for more normal weather. The migrating robins were right on schedule, and in spite of the long drought of last summer, there was big crop of acorns for the deer. Mother Nature keeps a close watch on all.

We are looking forward to a good year in Indian country. In February, I will be Head Lady Dancer at the local intertribal pow-wow. That is a first for me, and I was pleased that the group believed me to be acceptable for this honor. Come dance with me. I know that most of you are not dancers (as I was not, just a few short years ago), which is all the more reason for you to come now and get in the circle. Nothing renews as the drum and the songs do. Dancing heals the heart, and inspires your work. It also keeps you in touch with who you really are and helps you to make new and lasting friends.

We will be dancing at the Saint Mary's Seminary, at 9845 Memorial Drive in Houston. That is just off I-10 (take the Antoine exit, go south to Memorial), on Feb. 8. The pot luck dinner starts at 5 p.m., gourd dancing begins at 6:30, and the grand entry is at 8 p.m. We will look for you there. Ladies, bring your shawl!

The work on the alphabet book progressed. Maybe by Powwow in June it will be finished. I find myself doing a page over occasionally, thinking it might be a little better the next time. The work on the show is at a standstill just now. I think I have a lingering "After the holiday lazies."

We look forward to the Council in March, and sure could use some help with such things as mailout and sign-in-tables, etc. If I can assist in any way, call me. AND, if you have any suggestions to make the event more informative or more enjoyable, PLEASE call me. I will certainly appreciate your thoughts in the planning, and your hands in doing. Make plans for the 22nd of March, for Council.

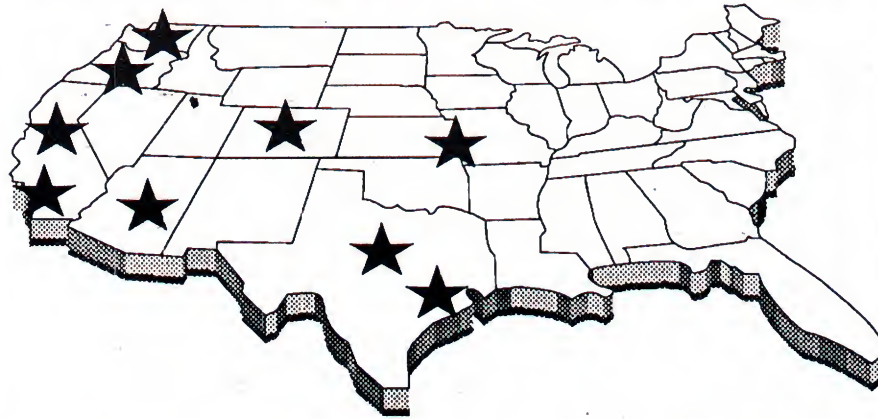
It is not too early to start planning to come to Shawnee for Powwow, and you want to be there especially on Friday, when we will be celebrating being Potawatomi!

Keep well. Put your tobacco down for all the elders and the children. We need to take care of them as well as we can.

Ba Ma Me Na,

Lu Ellis

## Regional Councils



### Remaining Regional Councils In the 1996-97 Series:

<b>Phoenix</b> .....	<b>Feb. 8</b>
<b>Northern California</b> .....	<b>March 8</b>
<b>Houston</b> .....	<b>March 22</b>
<b>Seattle</b> .....	<b>April 19</b>
<b>Portland</b> .....	<b>April 20</b>
<b>Kansas City</b> .....	<b>May 17</b>

How, Nikan!

Well, it's not much longer until the Regional Meeting! I hope that when you bought your new 1997 calendar, April 19 was among the dates you marked on it. We plan to hold our meeting this year at the American Indian Heritage High School on the 90th Ave. N. and N. Wallingford. We held it there a couple of years back and it seemed like a really great spot — lots of good vibes there. The menu will be barbecue ribs and chicken, salads and killer brownies with lots of coffee and soft drinks.

This caterer fed us last time we met at the high school and everyone was very positive about the meal. I've invited a drum group to come in to teach and entertain us and Karleena's getting the details worked out on the children's program. We plan to have at least two adults with the kids adjacent to our meeting space.

The language classes are moving along very nicely. We scheduled two in January and will be choosing the dates for February and March at the last January meeting. Along with language, Bill answers questions regarding Potawatomi tradition, all a part of the language process. I am putting the dates and times of the classes on my answering machine; if you need more information be sure and leave your name and phone number so I can call you back! We have a good group and welcome you to attend. There will be a report on our classes at the Regional meeting.

Eric and I made plans to take two of our kids and a couple of their friends to Canada, up near Banff and Calgary, Alberta, for a week after Christmas so if

## WASHINGTON

SUSAN CAMPBELL

you called during that time I'm sorry I wasn't there to speak to you. After years of listening to kids say, "Are you going and can we come too?" I'm not much of a snow person but a fireplace and a good book will keep me entertained while everyone else is out. Obviously I'm writing before we leave but I have marvelous plans!

If you have access to the Internet, check out the Citizen Potawatomi Nation page on the web (I reached it by doing a Yahoo search for Jack Wooldridge's "Potawatomi Fables" web page and following the links). There is some good information there, especially about tribal services. While you're on the net, check out the Prairie Band and Hannahville Band pages as well. You'll find history, activities and language information. Jack has links to all of them; spend some time surfing.

The new 1997 Pow Wow guides are out. You can usually find them at your local Indian crafts store or at a pow wow near you. If you get stuck, give me a call and I'll pass on the address. Pow wows in the U.S. and in Canada are listed.

Kshe'mnito kapma yawok pama mine' waje' wapte'kon.

Susan Campbell

## SOUTHWEST

PHILONISE WILLIAMS

Bourzho,

A new year bright and shiny! Think about the challenge we have to make the best use of 365 new days. Wow!

Mine started out very quietly. Comfortable clothes were put on early, the giant ball in Times Square was watched with great anticipation and when New Year's came I went to sleep. To my surprise not even a pot was banged nor a noise maker was blown to bring in the new year in our neighborhood. I was very thankful that our neighbors had the good sense not to shoot guns into the air. The fireworks at Rawhide were beautiful, I am told, but I was asleep and don't know for sure. And here we are a new year to start afresh. I for one can't wait to start the ball rolling on our plans for 1997.

On Dec. 28, 1996, I went to the Heard Museum to watch the Native American Dancers perform. To my surprise my friend Brian Hamel was dancing. The dancers performed the mens straight dance, the sneakup and hoop dances. Brian, who at present ranks 6th in the nation for his hoop dancing, was excellent. Brian dances with anywhere from five to forty-four hoops. He is magnificent.

Dale Gilbert also was there demonstrating beading on various types of materials. February 1st and 2nd are the dates of the dance competition at the Heard Museum. Dancers from all over the country will come and compete for the top honor. If you can come it will be most entertaining.

By now you have received your invitation to our Regional meeting and I hope you will be sending in your RSVP. I feel the program will be interesting and entertaining. I tried to pick a location that was located so it would be easier for you to attend.

If you have already sent in your RSVP, great! If not, get those in to me; it is very important. Please bring any genealogy you may have and the family. We have many things planned for both the adults and the children.

I will be looking forward to seeing all of you who regularly attend and meeting all the new friends that come this year.

Remember, if we do not appreciate the gifts given to us in our lives, that may well be because we have not opened them yet.

See you on Feb. 8.

Philonise Williams



# REGIONAL REPORTS

Bourzho Niconi,

We are in full swing now. The new year has begun with the usual feeling that we should be accomplishing even more than we did previously. Many will still be digging out, cleaning out and drying out as a result of the flooding. Please know that my thoughts and prayers have been and continue to be with you. Call me if there is something I can do to help.

Our Regional meeting is at hand and you should have your invitation in your hand. March 8 is the date. We are again at the Aahmes Event Center in Livermore (outskirts of the Bay Area), 170 Lindbergh Avee. Please be sure to return by mail, call, fax, or e-mail your RSVP with complete information.

We will have drumming, dancing, children's activities, and another fine meal. There have been many changes in

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

JENNIFER J. PORTER

the business of our tribe, so it will be an interesting and informative program. Please let me know if you can help by volunteering for any of the things I have listed on the flyer ... everyone was great last year and I am hoping even more of you can make this year's meeting. If you have had an address change, be sure to let

me know so that I can send you the flyer!

The question of a free sport fishing license and wildlife area pass came my way. I talked with the Fish and Game Department and they sent me the application with info on it. Here are the circumstances under which you can apply for one as it pertains to the American Indian.

"Any American Indian or lineal descendant who is a resident of the state and whose total income does not exceed \$7470.00 for the head of the household, plus \$2560.00 for each additional family member living with them. Certification from B.I.A. is required. Verification of income on Form FG371 is required yearly."

These are also available to developmentally disabled and severely physically disabled folks as well.

Now, I have to let you know I made a

mistake ... somehow I put a dot where an @ should be in my e-mail address...so here is the correct address. Sorry for the confusion. JJporter@juno.com Again, the Juno e-mail program is free and all you need is a modem.

The pow wow calendar I ordered is probably going to arrive as soon as I send this to Shawnee. I'll be sure to give you more information on that next time.

Please plan to come to the regional meeting and enjoy this special day we gather and get to know each other better. Come with your questions and ideas.

Those who come from Shawnee want to know them. Also, remember that Esther Lowden will bring lots of wonderful things to look at and buy from our Tribal Gift Shop. It will be a good day!

Pa ma...

Jennifer J. Porter

## COLORADO

PENNY BISHOP

Bozho,

"Happy and Joyous New Year to you all."

It's been pretty quiet here in Denver area, considering our sub-zero weather of late, and more to come, according to the forecast. Everyone must be hibernating. At my house we have had our fair share of colds, flu and chicken-pox.

I've had an unusual amount of requests and inquiries for scholarship information, and a fair amount of new tribal member applications.

Congratulations to Lisa Mahoney of Midvale, Utah on the birth of Matthew Silas, born December 18, 1996. Lisa is from the Ogee family.

My family suffered the great loss of my uncle John Truman LaReau, December 19, 1996. He was a long time resident of Shawnee, born and raised in Wanette, husband to Kathleen, Pop to Louis, Deborah, Robert, and Diane, Grandpa to three. He was my mother's younger brother and brother to Ruth Whittall, of California, Claire Lou Butler of Oklahoma City, Rodney LaReau of Alabama and the late Helen Hey and Mary Taylor. My youngest son is named for him. He was U.S.A.Lt. Col. Retired. He served in WWII, in the CBI Theatre. To list his goodness would be a tremendous task. He was kind, loving, a gentleman, a gentle man. He will surely be missed.

Until next time,

Penny Bishop



### Mystery Photo

Tribal member Mary Jane Lawson of Eustace, Texas, sent in this old photo after seeing the "Potawatomi Family Album" in the December HowNiKan. Lawson said this one came from her grandmother, Katie Bell Yott Stephens, but she doesn't "know where they fit yet." Old-fashioned handwriting on the back identifies the man as "Mr. Louis Yott," but the woman's name is difficult to make out. The first name is Mary, the last name also begins with an "M" and there is a note that may say "half sis." Lawson would love to know exactly who these people are and how they fit into her family. Anyone with such information should contact Mary Farrell in Tribal Rolls.



# INDIAN COUNTRY NEWS

## Native American named head of Indian Affairs Committee

Indian leaders across the United States feel as though they dodged a bullet. An Indian has been named U.S. Senate Indian Affairs Committee chairman. That prevents a dedicated foe of Indian sovereignty from assuming the committee chairmanship.

Trent Lott, U.S. Senate Majority Leader, has named Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (Rep.-Colorado) to chair the Indian Affairs Committee. Indian organizations and tribal leaders had launched an effort to retain Sen. John McCain as chairman.

Sen. McCain wanted very much to

assume Senate Commerce Committee chairmanship and was willing to remain as Indian Affairs Committee chairman, too. But, he ran afoul of a Senate rule, adopted Monday, that prevents one senator from chairing two committees.

Tribal leaders had asked that McCain be allowed to chair both Commerce and Indian Affairs. The Indian officials were worried about what might happen if Sen. Slade Gorton (Rep.- Washington), next in line, assumed the Indian Affairs chairmanship.

Stung by numerous legal defeats at

the hands of Indian tribes while he was Washington State Attorney General, Gorton has authored numerous pieces of anti-sovereignty, anti-Indian legislation in the U.S. Senate.

In 1996, he tried to toughen the Istook Amendment, authored by U.S. Rep. Ernest Istook (Rep.-Oklahoma). The Istook Amendment would have forbidden the Interior Secretary from accepting land into trust for an Indian nation if the tribal government had not reached agreement to collect and remit local and state sales tax on retail activity on the

land in question.

Sen. Gorton tried to have Indian nations pay ad valorem (property) taxes on land to be put into trust in the future. His and Rep. Istook's attempts died late in the legislative process in the 1996 congressional session.

Sen. McCain has battled for improved funding for programs that benefit Indian people. Indian leaders believe he has a good grasp of the reason Indian nations are sovereign and what that means as congress writes legislation and appropriates funding.

### News of note

## New book tells story of vengeance

In 1898 two Seminole teenagers were chained and burned alive as revenge for the murder of a white woman.

Because the mob leaders took their victims from Indian Territory to Oklahoma, their actions became the target of an investigation by federal officials which resulted in the first successful prosecution of lynchers in the Southwest.

This monumental case is the subject of a new book, *Seminole Burning: A Story of Racial Vengeance*, published by University Press of Mississippi.

Setting the narrative of events leading to the burning and of its aftermath against the historical backdrop of the invasion of Indian Territory by landless Americans, author Dan Littlefield connects this case with the expansion of federal court jurisdiction into the territory, with the federal attempt to dissolve land titles of the Five Civilized Tribes, and to the establishment of Oklahoma.

Littlefield, a professor of English at University of Arkansas, Little Rock, is director of American Native Press Archives and coeditor of Native American Writing in the Southeast (University Press of Mississippi).

Copies of *Seminole Burning* (\$26) are now available at bookstores and libraries, or from the publisher, 1-800-737-7788.

## JMIO pageant seeking applications

The Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women is seeking applicants for the 15th annual Junior Miss Indian Oklahoma (JMIO) competition. The current titleholder is Natalie Jefferson, a Choctaw from Broken Bow. A few of the requirements are: 13 to 17 years, 1/4 or more degree Indian and have lived in Oklahoma for the past 6 months. There is also an entry fee.

The deadline for applications is February 1, 1997, and the competition and contest pow-wow is March 1, 1997. The competition will be at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds in Oklahoma City. This year's competition is sponsored by the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Smoke Shop, Osage Hills Catalog Sales, and the OU Native American Center for Excellence. For further information contact: Marcy Renee Wakeford-Director, (918) 832-7289.

### MOTELS IN THE SHAWNEE AREA

American Inn, 5501 N. Harrison (405) 273-2000  
 Best Western Cinderella, 623 Kickapoo Spur (405) 273-7010  
 Budget Host, Hwy. 177 and Acme Rd. (405) 275-8430  
 Colonial Inn, 4800 N. Harrison (405) 878-0120  
 Econo Lodge, 5107 N. Harrison (405) 275-6720  
 Holiday Inn, Hwy. I-40 and Hwy. 18 (405) 274-4404  
 Motel 6, 4981 N. Harrison (405) 275-5310  
 Rodeway Inn, 12510 Valley View Rd. (5 miles East on I-40-Exit 192)  
 (405) 275-1005  
 Super 8 Motel, 4900 N. Harrison (405) 275-0089

## Welfare reforms change nature of government's responsibility

The nature of government's responsibility to America's less fortunate citizens changed abruptly on August 22, 1996. On that day, President Bill Clinton signed into law Public Law 104-193, "The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996."

Most frequently, PL 104-193 is referred to as the Welfare Reform Act.

The Welfare Reform Act will make substantial changes in the manner in which society perceives and carries out its obligation to provide a safety net for citizens who cannot provide for themselves.

At this point, what most citizens know about welfare reform changes is that a "welfare recipient" will be allowed to receive benefits for no more than a total of five years, 60 months, in his lifetime. They are also aware that a benefits recipient can receive assistance for no more than two consecutive years, before seeing his benefits cut off.

The clock began ticking on the two year/five year limits on October 1, 1996. That means that people who received benefits in October and November can receive them for no more than 22 more consecutive months nor more than 58 months total for the remainder of their lives.

These are the outside limits established in the federal law. They can be lowered by states or Indian nations, in their individual welfare plans.

The benefits that will, for awhile, replace Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and other "welfare" programs will be known as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

The welfare reform law authorizes the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide direct federal funding to Indian nations so they can operate their own TANF programs. Indian nations have the option of accepting block grant funds that would otherwise go to a state government or allowing the state DHHS to provide assistance to the Indian nation's citizens.

It's likely that, at first examination, many Indian nation governments will want to administer their own TANF programs. But, Indian government officials will want answers to many, many questions as they make this delicate decision.

Among the questions they are asking is: Where do we obtain the information to determine if Indian welfare benefits recipients qualify for an exemption from the Welfare Act time limits? That exemption prevents a month's benefits counting against a person's two-year or five-year limit IF that person lives that month on a reservation of at least one-thousand in population and an adult unemployment rate of at least 50%.

Indian officials also want to know if there is an administrative cost lid for their welfare programs. The new welfare law limits states' administrative spending to 15% of their block grant totals — except for the costs of computer equipment.

Across Indian Country, officials are scratching their heads over how to make up for the state government funds that have supplemented what Indian citizens receive from the federal government in welfare benefits. This could mean that an Indian citizen whose tribe runs its own welfare program would receive less, in a similar situation, than an Indian citizen whose tribal government leaves its welfare program to the state to administer.



# POTAWATOMI SCRAPBOOK

## Eleven new historical markers dot Trail of Death

Eleven new Trail of Death historical markers were dedicated in Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana in 1995-96.

Several Citizen Potawatomi and descendants of the Trail of Death took part in the various dedications, including Dr. George Godfrey, Lawrence, Kansas; Tom Hamilton, Leesburg, Ind.; Bob Pearl, Parma Heights, Oh.; Marge Pearl Guerich, St. Marys, Kansas, and Sister Virginia Pearl, Pawnee Rock, Kan.; Bill Wamego Jr., Tulsa, OK.; Carmelita Wamego Skeeter, Tulsa, OK.; Jeannie Wamego Van Veen, Tahlequah, OK.; and Susan Campbell, Seattle, Wash. Also attending were Bill and Shirley Willard, Rochester, Ind. Shirley is president of the Fulton County Historical Society and is coordinating the drive to erect Trail of Death markers at each campsite on the 660 mile trek from Indiana to Kansas.

**In 1995:**

On May 28 the Miami County Historical Society, Paola, Kansas, dedicated a Trail of Death plaque in the Park Square northeast of the fountain. The project was headed by Bernice Stephenson.

Also on May 28 the Osawatomie Historical Society, assisted by a local Boy Scout troop, dedicated a metal plaque on a huge boulder in front of the Old Land Office on north 6th Street. Marilyn Mullins headed the project.

On Sept. 16 a Trail of Death memorial was dedicated on the lawn of the Fulton County courthouse at Rochester, Ind. The memorial consists of four boulders from four states, each engraved with the name of one of the four states the Trail passed through, and two plaques. One plaque is a map and the other plaque describes the march through Rochester Sept. 5, 1838. This marker was sponsored by descendants of Che-saw-gen (Susan Campbell) and William O. Wamego Family and the Indian Awareness Center of the Fulton County Historical Society. The plaques were designed by Tom Hamilton on his computer.

On Sept. 30 at 10 a.m. a Trail of Death marker was dedicated at Hardee's Restaurant, Palmyra, MO. It was sponsored by Hardee's owners, Mr. and Mrs. Spike Erhardt, and their son Stan,

manager of the restaurant. The historical marker is a boulder with a metal plaque at the entrance to the Hardee's restaurant. Inside is a map of the Trail of Death, made by Tom Hamilton on his computer.

Also on Sept. 30 at 2 p.m. a dedication was held for a memorial to Theresa, who was a little girl on the Trail of Death, and is the ancestor of the Pearls and Slavins. This bronze plaque on a boulder is at the St. Boniface Church, 117 N. 7th Street, Quincy. The boulder is a two-ton red rock from Kansas, hauled by Jerry Pearl from his ranch at St. Marys, Kansas. Snake Redhawk Griffin, Quincy, used big construction equipment to get the boulder positioned between the sidewalk, and the church. Griffin is a member of the Iliamo American Indian center and helped with the project. (Iliamo stands for Illinois, Iowa and Missouri.) See related story in Oct. issue of HowNiKan by Sister Virginia Pearl for more about this dedication.

On Oct. 1 at 2 p.m. a dedication was held at Springfield for a Trail of Death marker sponsored by the Springfield Chapter of the National Daughters of American Revolution. Wauline Quick, a woman with Penobscot Indian ancestry, was in charge of the project and did the fund raising to pay for the for the marker, a plaque on a stone. It is located across the road from the Oaks Golf Course. Mary Lou Davis, DAR president, introduced Judge Harlington Wood, who had served as a federal mediator during Wounded Knee in 1975. He spoke about getting equal rights for Indians today. George Godfrey, Bob Pearl and Shirley Willard spoke about the history of the Trail of Death. An old lady stood up and said her great-grandmother was on the Trail of Death. She cried and told about her mother's little sister being stolen.

Next the group drove to Decatur for the dedication of the marker in Mueller Park at 5 p.m. Zita Wright had paid for it with money given to her for her birthday — such an unselfish gift! The boulder is very unusual with seams of different kinds of rock through it. The site overlooks Decatur Lake and is scenic, peaceful and quiet. As always at

each dedication ceremony, they recalled the Potawatomi camping there and how they must have felt. Nearly every marker records deaths at the camps.

**In 1996:**

On May 31 a marker was placed at the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum, Battle Ground, Indiana. It was sponsored by the descendants of Abram Burnett. The project was headed by Tom Hamilton, who served as master of ceremonies at the dedication. The marker is a huge boulder taken from near Burnett's Arch, which was a boat bridge built in 1840 as part of the Wabash & Erie Canal a few miles from Battle Ground. Girl Scout Troop 219 obtained the boulder and organized the dedication. They held the APOCTOWI Pow Wow at Lafayette that same weekend.

On July 26 two Trail of Death markers were dedicated west of Springfield, Ill., on the Old Jacksonville Road. Both markers were sponsored by the Rainbow Dancers Pow Wow. Wording was sand-blasted on granite monuments. The project was headed by Jennifer Kansy, New Berlin, who served as master of ceremonies. The first marker was on land owned by Bill Hitt, whose ancestors had owned it since 1832. That means they were there when the Indians camped there in 1838. Several huge old oak trees over 200 years old are still living at this site, which is across the road from the Island Grove Cemetery and church. The second marker was at New Salem Church (formerly Riddle Hill). The Rainbow Dancers Pow Wow at the state fair grounds was dedicated to the Potawatomi Trail of Death.

On Nov. 17 a Trail of Death marker was dedicated at Williamsport, Indiana. It was the Eagle Scout project of Phil High, assisted by Boy Scout 344 of rural Warren County. The only Citizen Potawatomi who attended was George Wesselhoft, a descendant of Abram Burnett. Shirley Willard was master of ceremonies at the dedication. The marker is a metal plaque on a metal post in the old Town Park on Main and old Second streets, just a few hundred yards from the area believed to be the campsite of the emigrating Potawatomi in 1838.

Historic Trial of Death Approved By Missouri

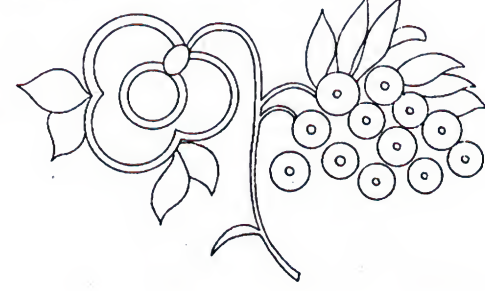
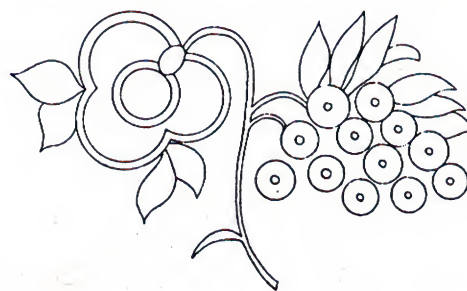
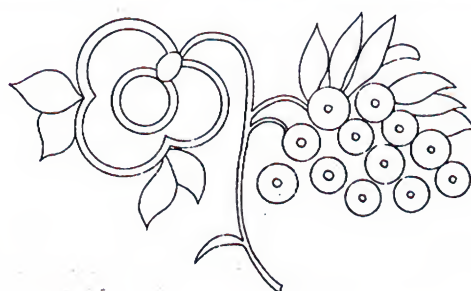
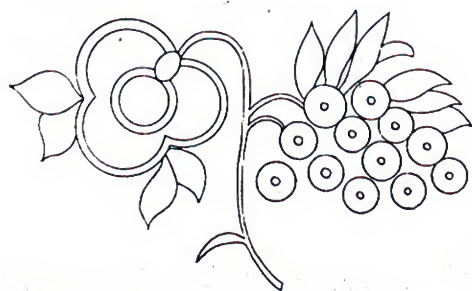
Missouri joined Indiana, Illinois, and Kansas in declaring the Potawatomi Trail of Death a Regional Historic Trail. The bill was sponsored by State Representative Scott Lakin, Kansas City, Missouri, and passed April 15, 1996. The other three states passed similar resolutions in 1994, at the request of the Indian Awareness Center, a branch of the Fulton County Historical Society, Rochester, Indiana.

"It is our goal to get a historical marker at each camp site, every 15 to 20 miles," said Willard. Markers are being placed by interested persons and groups, at no expense to the taxpayers. Persons interested in helping erect markers can contact her at 219-223-2352, her home at Rochester, Indiana, or write the Fulton county Historical Society, 37 E. 375 N., Rochester, IN 46975.

Working with Willard are several members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Dr. George Godfrey has done much of the research in Illinois. Tom Hamilton has made the Trail of Death map on his computer, made videos of the dedication ceremonies, and gotten his family to sponsor a marker. Susan Campbell has helped with publicity and sponsoring a marker. Robert Pearl and Sister Virginia Pearl have assisted in dedications and gotten their family to sponsor a marker.

This group of dedicated persons is planning a third Trail of Death Commemorative Caravan in Sept. 1998. The first two were in 1988 and 1993. The caravan in 1998 will begin with the Trail of Courage Living History Festival at Rochester, Ind., Sept. 19-20. This festival honors a different Potawatomi family with roots in Indiana history every year. The caravan will begin at Menominee's statue 15 miles north of Rochester on Sept. 21 at 9 a.m. Those traveling in the caravan of cars and campers will stop at every camp site and marker. Many of the counties they will pass through will have special ceremonies and receptions. They will end their trek Sept. 30 at St. Philippine Duchesne Memorial Park near Centerville, Kansas.

Now is the time to begin planning to go on this spiritual journey.





# POTAWATOMI SCRAPBOOK

## Long-ago story of lost sister breaks hearts of listeners at Trail of Death ceremony

Sister Eleanor Ely, Springfield, Ill., told a heart-rending story to those attending the Trail of Death dedication at Springfield, Ill. A petite white-haired woman, she recalled that her great-grandmother was on the Trail of Death. But a more recent tragedy had caused her mother a life-time of grief while searching and praying for her lost child.

This is the whole story Sister Eleanor told to Shirley Willard later, so she could write it and send it to the *HowNiKan*. Her great-grandmother, Mary Nonya, was on the Trail of Death with her sister, who died along the trail.

Eleanor's mother, Caroline (called Carrie) age 13, and sister Cynthia, age 11, were in a covered wagon coming from Kansas to Illinois with their parents, Benjamin and Mary Sheets, about 1909. (The Indian name was Sheets of Fire but it was shortened to Sheets.) There were several other wagons traveling with them.

When they reached the Sangamon river near Springfield, they all made camp for the night. As was their custom, the two young girls made their bed under the wagon. The next morning Carrie discovered that her sister Cynthia was gone. The family looked for her but could not find her. They were told that a wagon had left the camp very early that morning. That wagon was driven by a man named Joppi, a Cherokee. Suspecting that he had stolen little Cynthia, they followed him. They continued on his trail to Joplin, Mo, where they were unable to find where he had gone to next. They gave up and went back to Springfield.

Caroline Sheets lived the rest of her life there and always continued to search and pray for her little sister Cynthia. She married Barney Ely and had several children, including Cynthia, a baby who lived only a few months, Barney, Mary, Eleanor, and Andrew Ely. After her husband was killed in a coal mine explosion, she married Ervin Guyett.

She told all of her children the sad story of her sweet and pretty little sister and spent her whole life looking for Cynthia.

Eleanor describes her mother as a beautiful Potawatomi woman, known for her loyalty and generosity. A Sioux woman made her a beautiful Indian dress which she wore proudly and later was buried in.

Eleanor wrote: "One day Mom asked my older sister and I to take her for a ride. She directed us to a place out by the Sangamon River where they had camped once. She wept. The place has built up with houses everywhere. She talked about her sister Cynthia. They were sent to a farm house to ask for food, she said. Cynthia giggled because the lady said, "My, what a pretty little girl." Mom cried again. She often said it would have been easier if she had died. This way she doesn't know how, where or what happened to her. Cynthia was reported missing but in those days Indians had few places to offer help. Mom believed an Indian man who had eaten at their campfire the night before had taken her. His wagon pulled out during the night. The girls slept on straw under the wagon. The man's name was or he was called Joppi. He was not a Potawatomi."

Eleanor joined the Sisters of Mary Immaculate and served many years as a missionary in South Africa and teaching school in Texas. She came home to take care of her mother in 1977. During those last years she slept by her mother's side and held her hand. She promised her mother as long as she had the breath of life, she would continue her search for Cynthia.

Carrie Sheets Ely Guyett died March 14, 1984, at age 87.

Nearly 90 years have passed since Cynthia was stolen from her family and a sister who never forgot. If anyone can shed any light on this mystery, please contact Eleanor Ely, 300 Forrest Park #79, Springfield, IL 62702.

"I will never stop looking for Cynthia," she declared, tears glistening in her eyes.

## *New markers tell sad tales of murderous march*

From the 1838 Trail of Death Diary:

The new Trail of Death historical markers recall the following dates and campsites in 1838:

- Sept. 5 — Rochester, Ind. 51 persons sick and unable to go so were left at Tippecanoe River. Marched through Rochester on Main Street, travelled 9 miles, camped at Mud Creek that night. A child died, the first death on the Trail of Death. A baby was born at the camp that night.
- Sept. 12 — Battle Ground, Ind. Travelled 15 miles. Forded Tippecanoe River at 11 o'clock. Passed the Battle Ground at 12. Camped near Lafayette at 1. A very old woman, the mother of the chief We-wiss-sa, said to be upwards of 100 years old, died.
- Sept. 14 — Williamsport, Ind. 18 miles. Wagons of sick becoming crowded. Two deaths took place in the evening.
- Sept. 26 — Decatur, Ill. 14 miles. The physician is sick. A child died after dark.
- Sept. 28 — Travelled 18 miles, camped near Sangamon river. Two children died during the night. Conductor William Polke promised the Indians tobacco after going through Springfield tomorrow if they present a good appearance. Chief I-o-weh was put in charge of the clean-up.
- Oct. 8-10 — Quincy, Ill. Steam ferry across Mississippi River. Three children died. Attended Mass at St. Boniface church.
- Oct. 11 — 13 miles, camped at pleasant Springs near Palmyra, Mo. A woman died.
- Nov. 3 — Left Oak Grove at early hour and travelled until 2 o'clock, camped at Bulltown (now called Paola), Kansas.
- Nov. 4 — Left Bulltown at 9, crossed Osage River at 2, where Indians were met and welcomed by many of their friends. Arrived at Pottawatomie Creek, the end of destination at half past 3. Distance travelled today 20 miles.

— From the Trail of Death diary, "Journal of an Emigrating Party of Potawatomi Indians 1838," *Indiana Magazine of History*, vol. 21, 1925. Original hand-written diary is on microfilm in the National Archives.



# Better access to archives, museum part of long-range plans

Continued from page 1

archaeological sites and original allotments are." While some that has never before been done for the Potawatomi, cultural resources management also includes some areas tribal members are more familiar with.

The archives, for instance, are now part of her responsibility. Housed for years in the tribal rolls office, the tribe's collection of old records, photographs and other historic data has been moved to the lower level of the museum building, where the language and cultural programs are now housed. It is the first step in a master plan to present the tribe's cultural heritage in a more educational and user-friendly way.

"I want to thank Mary Farrell for rescuing the archives and caring for them," Kraft said in a recent interview. She said that the new archive location will allow for a separate room for microfilm reading and provide easier access to all materials. "We're developing a system for tribal members to use the archives like a library," she said, although obviously materials will not be allowed to leave. "We're in the process of inventorying, cataloging and computerizing ... and we'll start acquiring books for a research library."

A grant is in the works for a family heirloom project which would help tribal members collect and protect family history documents. Materials such as archival paper and boxes, and a digital camera to copy old photographs would be part of the project, which would show tribal members that the family records and photos "don't have to be in a museum ... we'll promote the need to take care of them."

The museum itself will also undergo some changes under Kraft's direction. A



*Lisa Kraft Studies Material In Potawatomi Archives*

1995 graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a degree in anthropology, Kraft has already amassed impressive experience in exhibit design. In fact, she is still employed as exhibit designer for the Jacobson Foundation. Plans are to move the museum from its present location to the larger area in the back of the same building, which now houses the gallery portion of the gift shop.

"I want a permanent exhibit about the Potawatomi coming to Oklahoma," Kraft said, "with a 3-D topographic map." Eventually she wants a life-sized replica of a village, complete with a birch-bark canoe, depicting tribal life in

the early 1800s. Kraft said the fur-trading era is now seen as the time in which the Potawatomi became entrepreneurs.

"The goal is to make the museum more educational," she said. "We want to teach about our heritage ... we want to offer everyone, especially the kids and elders, a chance to be docents, and we want people to get involved in crafts, language, ceremonies — immerse them in their culture." Kraft expressed her appreciation to Esther Lowden, with whom she is working closely on the museum plans as well as relying on for advice on Potawatomi traditions.

In her role as the NAGPRA representative, Kraft is working with Norman Kiker and the other five Potawatomi bands "on a rescue mission to get our ancestors out of the museums." Federal law allows the tribes to request the return of "sacred, ceremonial and objects of cultural patrimony," she said, such as medicine bundles or anything with human remains. That requires research and a specific claim.

Kraft's job also has her working with Brian Eddlemoan in realty to identify original allotments and cemeteries. "We want to protect them," she said. "They're being lost." Plans are to place markers at original homesteads and at cemeteries where tribal members are buried to protect them. Already, with Eddlemoan's help, Kraft has examined a dugout and identified two archaeological sites on a tribal member's land. She's not saying where, but one is prehistoric (2-4,000 years old) and the other is a historic trash dump (probably late 1800s; anything older than 50 years is considered historic).

And that's only the beginning. Kraft is writing grants for a variety of projects, some in conjunction with other tribes, and is travelling to Kansas with Kiker and Suzanne Battese to "check out some sites." She said the "tribe and Business Committee are very excited and very supportive" of her plans.

Kraft shares her professional passions with her husband, K.C., whom she met while in school. They are living in Norman while he completes work on a doctorate in anthropology. They have no children; "just two Australian Shepherds," she laughed. Kraft is the granddaughter of Ara Mae O'Bright, who is descended from the Peltier and Bourbonnais families.

## Barrett warns violations 'shall be considered criminal act'

Continued from page 1

assistance and employment assistance for adult Indians ... north of the Canadian River," which is in Sac & Fox jurisdiction.

Area Director L.W. Collier responded in November 1993 that the BIA "cannot authorize or condone any acts to violate tribal boundaries ... Your intent to provide services in areas where your tribe is not authorized ... appears to be in direct violation of these regulations." Collier suggested the Shawnees negotiate agreements with the other tribes and submit them to his office. That apparently was never done.

The Sac & Fox Business Committee approved a resolution on Nov. 27, 1996, authorizing Principal Chief Dora Young "to give the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma notice to cease and desist from exercising general jurisdiction over

lands within the Sac & Fox reservation boundaries." That notice was given Dec. 4 in a letter to Absentee Shawnee Gov. Larry Nuckolls from Young, who in the letter requested that the Shawnees "refrain from doing any type of housing or any other business" in Sac & Fox jurisdiction, and informed him that "we are also requesting that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) stop any funding to you that is for allocation of services within our jurisdiction."

The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma had approved a similar resolution in December 1993, specifically mentioning law enforcement problems, and Potawatomi Business Committee approved one in November 1996. Barrett's letter to Nuckolls said that any attempt to "exercise criminal or civil jurisdiction within the Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall be considered a criminal act" and that any at-

tempt to serve or obtain funds to serve people within the Potawatomi jurisdiction will be considered a violation of the declaratory judgment issued by the federal court.

Barrett ended his Oct. 30 letter with a reminder that the Potawatomi have offered a settlement "of the dispute between our nations. It is our hope that this settlement offer will receive prompt consideration." He said last month that the Shawnees had made an unacceptable counteroffer.

In the meantime, Barrett said the actions of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe "in blatantly violating the law relating to jurisdiction is just one of several overt acts against the area tribes. Just recently the Absentee-Shawnee courts issued a felony arrest warrant for an enrolled Citizen Potawatomi nation member for activities within the Potawatomi Nation's jurisdic-

tion ... The Absentee Shawnees are ignoring a federal court decision that limits their legal jurisdiction to their trust land only. They apparently believe that because their case is on appeal that the decision of the U.S. court was invalid. This is not true."

Barrett said he fears that the Absentee Shawnee "will become confrontational through the actions of their police department in Potawatomi jurisdiction when our police are asserting their rightful jurisdiction." The chairman said he expressed this fear to Wayne Sims of HUD, and "he responded with a request that the Potawatomi tribe submit to binding arbitration. There is nothing to arbitrate. The federal court has ruled that the Absentee Shawnee are squatters on Potawatomi land. We cannot arbitrate the decision of a federal judge."